

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 34 with the following amended paragraph:

[34] The present invention may be summarized as a mostly transparent billiard cue ball with ~~an opaque~~ a visible inner core to be used for training and aiming purposes primarily when attempting to apply sidespin and limit deflection to the cue ball, and secondarily to focus on the ball's precise center when applying no spin. In accordance with the above thesis, it is an object of the exemplary design to improve a billiard player's cueing technique and maintain consistency thereof, where heretofore training balls have remained delinquent.

Please replace paragraph 41 with the following amended paragraph:

[41] The ball allows the inner ~~opaque~~ core to be made of a substantially dense material in order to compensate for any lacking weight of the transparent outer shell, thereby bringing the cue ball to an acceptable customary total weight. Totally transparent cue balls are nearly 25% lighter than standard professional opaque cue balls. Dense materials such as steel or lead that are at least 25% heavier than a transparent material such as acrylic would readily compensate for lost weight, thereby bringing the training cue ball to within a regulation range, regardless of ball size.

Page 13, before paragraph 49 add the following new paragraph:

The present invention is illustrated by way of example, and not by limitation, in the figures of the accompanying drawings, wherein elements having the same reference designations represent like elements throughout and wherein:

Please replace paragraph 54 with the following amended paragraph:

[54] Reference numerals for drawings 1 – 5:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 | billiard training ball |
| 7 | opaque <u>and/or translucent</u> inner core |
| 8 | transparent <u>and/or translucent</u> outer covering |
| 9 | circumference |

10a,b	object ball
11	cue stick (i.e., portion thereof)
12	standard pool table (i.e., portion thereof)
13	planar surface
14	right side rail
15	right corner pocket
16	end rail
17	left corner pocket
18	left side rail
19a,b	sidespin
20	direct alignment
21a,b,c,d	direction of deflection
α	angle of deflection
β	angle of deflection
θ	angle of deflection

Please replace paragraph 56 with the following amended paragraph:

[56] Fig. 1: A billiard training ball 6 is shown in perspective view with a portion of a cue stick 11 poised and aligned for a pool shot with ball 6 and an object ball 10a toward a right corner pocket 15. For illustration, balls 6 and 10a are shown as disposed upon a portion of a standard pool table 12 having a planar surface 13 supporting them. Balls 6 and 10a have a generally spherical outer surface, as shown by an equal circumference 9. Ball 6 features a centered opaque and/or translucent inner core 7 and a transparent and/or translucent outer covering 8. Looking additionally to Fig. 1, wherein table 12 is shown having surface 13 bounded by a right side rail 14 and an end rail 16 that include pocket 15 between them;

Page 16, add new paragraph 61 as follows:

[61] It will be readily seen by one of ordinary skill in the art that the present invention fulfills all of the objects set forth above. After reading the foregoing specification, one of ordinary skill will be able to affect various changes, substitutions of equivalents and various

other aspects of the invention as broadly disclosed herein. It is therefore intended that the protection granted hereon be limited only by the definition contained in the appended claims and equivalents thereof.

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the current Abstract as follows: